

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-28 (canceled)

Claim 29 (new): A method of operating a computing platform comprising:

receiving secured data comprising an encrypted first portion of a data product and an unencrypted second portion of the data product, said unencrypted second portion being unusable by the computing platform without decrypting said encrypted first portion;

decrypting said encrypted first portion with a decryption key; and

executing a program on the computing platform to use the data product including both the first portion and the second portion for an intended purpose, wherein said program is not included with said data product.

Claim 30 (new): The method of Claim 29 wherein said first portion of the data product includes decompression parameters for the data product.

Claim 31 (new): The method of Claim 29 wherein said first portion of the data product comprises indices into data contained in the second portion of the data product.

Claim 32 (new): The method of Claim 29 wherein said first portion of the data product comprises global data pertaining to the data product as a whole.

Claim 33 (new): The method of Claim 29 wherein the data product further includes an encrypted authorization key and said method further comprising decrypting said encrypted authorization key to obtain verification information.

Claim 34 (new): The method of Claim 33 wherein said verification information comprises an ID code associated with the computing platform entitled to access the data product.

Claim 35 (new): The method of Claim 33 wherein said verification information comprises an ID code associated with a storage medium entitled to hold the data product.

Claim 36 (new): The method of Claim 33 wherein said verification information comprises an ID code associated with a user entitled to use the data product.

Claim 37 (new): The method of Claim 33 wherein said decrypting said authorization key provides said decryption key for decrypting said first portion of the geographic database.

Claim 38 (new): A computing system comprising:

- a processor;

- a data storage medium coupled to said processor, the data storage medium holding a set of data comprising an encrypted first portion of a data product and an unencrypted second portion of the data product, wherein the first portion comprises critical data that enables use of the data product; and

- a routine executable by the processor for decrypting the encrypted first portion of the data product, thereby enabling a program executable by said processor to use the data product including both the first portion and the second portion for an intended purpose, wherein said program is not included with said data product.

Claim 39 (new): The system of Claim 38 wherein said data product is a geographic database.

Claim 40 (new): The method of Claim 38 wherein said critical data includes decompression parameters for the data product.

Claim 41 (new): The system of Claim 38 wherein said set of data further including an encrypted authorization key.

Claim 42 (new): The system of Claim 41 further comprising a second routine executable by the processor for decrypting the encrypted authorization key to obtain verification information to validate use of the data product.

Claim 43 (new): The system of Claim 41 further comprising a second routine executable by the processor for decrypting the encrypted authorization key to obtain a decryption key for decrypting the first portion of the data product.

Claim 44 (new): A data product stored on a medium comprising:

an encrypted first portion; and

an unencrypted second portion, wherein said first portion comprises critical data that when decrypted enables a program executed on a computing platform to use the data product including both said first portion and said second portion for an intended purpose, said program is not included with said data product.

Claim 45 (new): The data product of Claim 44 wherein said data product comprises a geographic database.

Claim 46 (new): The data product of Claim 44 wherein said critical data comprises indices into data contained in said second portion.

Claim 47 (new): The data product of Claim 44 wherein said critical data comprises global data pertaining to said data product as a whole.

Claim 48 (new): The data product of Claim 44 wherein said encrypted first portion includes an authorization key.